

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 02674 122220Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 INT-05 SS-15 /035 W

-----122227Z 043987 /66

P R 122210Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4837

INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LA PAZ 2674

FOR: DEPT PASS INTERIOR BUREAU OF MINES

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, BL

SUBJECT: BU OF MINES TEAM VISIT TO BOLIVIA AND BRAZIL

REF: STATE 78144

1. THE EMBASSY REGRETS THAT IT WAS UNABLE TO SALVAGE THE SUBJECT VISIT WHICH HAD TO BE ABORTED BECAUSE OF LACK OF APPROVAL BY THE GOB. EMBASSY FIRST RECEIVED WORD OF SUBJECT VISIT ON GOOD FRIDAY (LOCAL HOLIDAY) AND ATTEMPTED TO OBTAIN LAST MINUTE APPROVAL FOR TEAM VISIT. TELEPHONE CONVERSATIONS WITH THE UNDER SECRETARY AND THE MINISTER OF MINES AT HOME FAILED TO ACHIEVE A GREEN LIGHT AS THE MINISTER WISHED TO CONSULT WITH HIS ADVISORS ON MONDAY.

2. INFORMED OF THIS FACT AND THE AMBASSADOR'S DESIRE FOR THE TEAM TO WAIT IN WASHINGTON THE TEAM DEPARTED THE U.S. ANYWAY, INTENDING TO KEEP APPOINTMENTS IN LIMA, PERU. RATHER THAN WAIT IN LIMA THE TEAM CONTINUED TO LA PAZ ON SATURDAY APRIL 9 IN ORDER TO BECOME ACCLIMATIZED TO ALTITUDE IN CASE APPROVAL WAS GRANTED. THIS FURTHER COMPLICATED MATTERS AS GOB OFFICIALS LEARNED OF GROUPS PRESENCE IN LA PAZ.

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3. AT MEETING IN MINISTRY OF MINES ON MONDAY MORNING, MINISTER AND ADVISORS DECIDED NOT TO APPROVE VISIT. MINISTER AND UNDER SECRETARY INFORMED EMBASSY IN AFTERNOON THAT FACT THAT GOB WAS FACED WITH DE FACTO PRESENCE OF VISITORS IT ASKED TO APPROVE, MADE SITUATION MORE DELICATE FOR THEM. MINISTER HAD JUST RETURNED FROM VISITING SOME MINES AND

THEREFORE TIMING OF SUBJECT VISIT WAS NOT GOOD. DATA ON COSTS OF TIN PRODUCTION ARE BEING PRESENTED TO ITC AND GOB ALSO SAW NO NEED FOR FURTHER DATA GATHERING AT THIS TIME. ALSO JULY MEETING OF ITC IS A VERY IMPORTANT AND DELICATE MATTER FOR BOLIVIA. MINISTER SAID HE WOULD BE WILLING TO RECONSIDER A VISIT LATER IN THE YEAR AFTER THE JULY MEETING.

4. EMBASSY BELIEVES ITS CHANCES OF OBTAINING CLEARANCE FOR THE VISIT WOULD HAVE BEEN CONSIDERABLY ENHANCED IF IT HAD RECEIVED MORE TIMELY NOTICE OF VISIT WHICH WOULD HAVE ALLOWED PERSONAL CONTACT AT MINISTRY TO EXPLAIN PURPOSE OF VISIT AND ALLOW A MORE CALM AND LESS HURRIED CONSIDERATION BY THE GOB. IF A FURTHER VISIT IS DEEMED WORTHWHILE THE EMBASSY WILL DO ITS BEST TO GAIN APPROVAL. IN THE MEANTIME AFTER SITUATION HAS QUIETED DOWN HERE EMBASSY WILL ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN DETAILED OPERATING AND COST INFORMATION ON SEVERAL MINES WHICH WILL BE FORWARDED TO WASHINGTON PERHAPS BY EARLY JUNE.
STEDMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TIN, MINING INDUSTRY, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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